

RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL



Phil Maymin

Libertarian for U.S. Congress

Connecticut's Fourth District: Bridgeport, Darien,
Easton, Fairfield, Greenwich, Monroe, New Canaan,
Norwalk, Oxford, Redding, Ridgefield, Shelton,
Stamford, Trumbull, Weston, Westport, and Wilton

Member for Congress: 2b
PO Box 961
Greenwich, CT 06836
VM/Fax: 206-203-2006
MayminForCongress.com

BY: FACSIMILE AND FEDERAL EXPRESS TRACKING #7911 3808 8947

October 5, 2006

Federal Election Commission
Office of General Counsel
999 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20463

MUR # 5836

Dear Sirs:

This letter is a complaint regarding an imminent violation of Federal Election Campaign Laws or Commission regulations, as you suggested in your October 2 response to my September 22 request for an advisory opinion. My full name and address are provided at the end of this letter along with a notarization.

Connecticut's Fourth Congressional District has three candidates who are both on the ballot and registered with the Federal Election Commission: myself running as a Libertarian, Republican Christopher Shays, and Democrat Diane Farrell.

There are eleven debates scheduled in October by a variety of sponsoring organizations. Seven out of those will include all three of us. A minority of four have invited only Shays and Farrell. One of those four is the Stamford Chamber of Commerce (the "Chamber"). In an email from President of the Chamber Jack Condlin ("Condlin") to a member of my campaign staff dated September 13, Condlin wrote:

"The Stamford Chamber does a series of debates each year. They include; local elections, regional elections, state elections and federal elections. **Our policy for debates follows the League of Women Voters guidelines.** We have discussed Mr. Maymin's candidacy with the Chamber leadership and with several of my fellow organizations. Historically we have allowed third party candidates to parties participate provide they meet these standards

I am sorry but we have to **decline your request** to participate in the October 18th [Congressional] debate."
(my emphasis added)

My campaign responded to him that the League of Women Voters (the "League") has determined that I have met each of their guidelines. Indeed, I will be participating in both debates sponsored by the League. We told him that we assumed this meant we would be participating in the Chamber's debate as well.

But Condlin's response read:

27044162508

You are incorrect in your assumption. Mr. Maymin is not being invited to participate in our debate. Our interpretation of the national league of women voters' policies is that Mr. Maymin does not qualify. I am sorry if you disagree, but it is our decision.

I had a telephone conversation two weeks ago with Condlin. I asked him how he could reconcile his claim of following League guidelines but reaching a different conclusion. He said they are a private organization and can invite anyone they want. He said he could invite his mother if he wanted to. When I asked him which guideline the Chamber felt I did not satisfy, he said he did not want to get into a debate with me. He also refused to answer a similar emailed question from my campaign staff. I have asked them in email for their written guidelines and I have not received a reply.

He also said the Chamber is an organization governed by 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(4).

That means they are therefore subject to federal rules 11 CFR 110.13(a)(1) and the criteria for candidate selection of 11 CFR 110.13(c). That rule states that organizations staging debates "must use pre-established objective criteria to determine which candidates may participate in a debate."

The League's guidelines are widely considered objective and are available online at http://www.lwvct.org/voters/candidate_eligibility.htm. They include the criteria of ballot access, a formal campaign, evidence of broad voter support, and evidence of broad-based financial support.

The League has determined that I qualify for both of their debates.

While the law for candidate eligibility is brief, it clearly calls for objectivity. Here, it appears that as a matter of law the Chamber is acting unobjectively.

This is my complaint: the Stamford Chamber of Commerce is acting unobjectively and therefore unlawfully in excluding me from its debate.

Please expedite this request as quickly as possible not only because I am a federal candidate less than 60 days before the election but also because the debate itself is less than two weeks away.

Sincerely,



Phil Maymin

Libertarian Candidate, U.S. House of Representatives, Connecticut's Fourth District
Maymin for Congress, PO Box 961, Greenwich, CT 06836

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 5th day of October, 2006



NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES AUG. 31, 2011

27044162509